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CIA REPORTED TRAINING BRITISH MERCENARIES IN TERROR TACTICS
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Nicaragua claimed the CIA is training 40 British mercenaries to carry out terrorist attacks in Central America that will be blamed on the leftist Sandinistas.

Carlos Nunez Tellez, a member of the Sandinista National Directorate and president of the Constituent Assembly, said the British commandos are preparing to attack embassies throughout the region.

"There is a British connection in the CIA terrorist war against Nicaragua," Nunez said in remarks published Monday in the official Sandinista Front newspaper Barricada.

The Observer newspaper in London published a similar report Sunday, saying that as many as 40 British "dogs of war" mercenaries are expected to fly to Central America next month to join other soldiers of fortune fighting Nicaragua.

But the report said "professional fighters here have rejected the approach and those who have signed up are untrained and inexperienced."

U.S. Embassy officials refused to comment on the allegations and there was no immediate comment from the British Embassy.

Nunez said the CIA was training the mercenaries "to attack embassies in Costa Rica, Honduras and to stage 'self-inflicted attacks' on U.S. embassies in Central America."

The commandos would then accuse Nicaragua of "international terrorism" in a bid to turn public opinion against the Sandinista government, he said.

"It is known the CIA has recruited 40 mercenaries, former members of the British Armed Forces, for the creation of a 'Command of Urban Operations,'" Nunez said.

"A group of American millionaires with ties to the CIA are the ones responsible for this operation and have promised to finance it," he added.

The Observer said the mercenary recruitment is part of an effort by powerful American figures and two Central American guerrilla leaders who have visited London secretly.

It said Tom Posey, a businessman from Alabama who leads Civilian Military Assistance, was believed to be a key figure in the recruitment drive.

"There's a lot more interest from the British people," the Observer quoted Posey as saying. "I have been in touch with 30 or 40 people who I expect to come over pretty soon. All have some kind of military experience."

About 15,000 anti-Sandinista rebels have received \$80 million in financing from the CIA, but the funding was suspended by Congress last year. Efforts by the Reagan administration to secure additional aid have been rejected by the House.